

Arnold Schwarzenegger California	Janet Napolitano Arizona	Rick Perry Texas	Bill Richardson New Mexico	Richard Codey New Jersey
Kenny Guinn Nevada	George E. Pataki New York	Ruth Ann Miner Delaware	Thomas Vilsack Iowa	Rod Blagojevich Illinois
Sunny Perdue Georgia	Jeb Bush Florida	Charles Turnbull Virgin Islands	Christine Gregorie Washington	Tim Pawlenty Minnesota

May 6, 2005

The Honorable Frank R. Wolf  
Subcommittee on Science, State, Justice  
and Commerce and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Alan B. Mollohan  
Subcommittee on Science, State, Justice  
and Commerce and Related Agencies  
Committee on Appropriations  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Wolf and Representative Mollohan:

We write to express our continued support for the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) and to request you appropriate \$750 million for this program in Fiscal Year 2006. SCAAP is vital to states such as ours who bear a significant financial burden for the federal government's failure to control our nation's borders.

Congress has provided help in maintaining this program – but more is needed. As Governors, we are well aware of the difficult choices that must be made in prioritizing funding. It is for this reason that we join together to write you now. We want to reiterate our strong support for SCAAP and to assure you of the critical importance of this program. Each year, thousands of undocumented aliens who have committed crimes in our states are incarcerated in state or local facilities. SCAAP provides only a partial, but important, reimbursement for the cost to incarcerate these individuals.

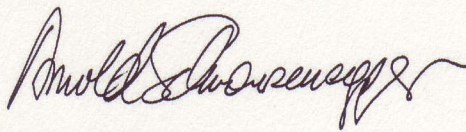
Our states are committed to working with the Federal government to protect our nation. While we are doing what we can in this important effort, immigration policy and controlling the nation's borders are clear, fundamental responsibilities of the Federal government and an essential component of homeland security. Every effort should be made to help States and local governments cover a greater share of the expenses they incur to incarcerate criminal aliens.



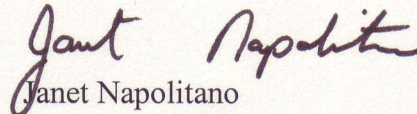
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Thank you for your consideration of our request. Again, we appreciate your past support and we look forward to continuing our work with you to ensure that SCAAP remains a viable program for reimbursing State and local governments for the burden they carry to incarcerate criminal aliens.

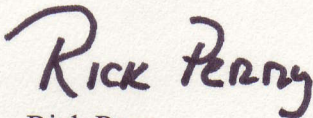
Sincerely,



Arnold Schwarzenegger  
Governor of California



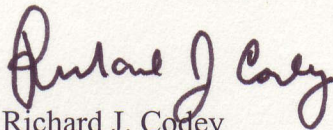
Janet Napolitano  
Governor of Arizona



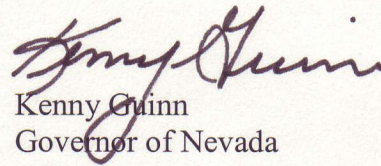
Rick Perry  
Governor of Texas



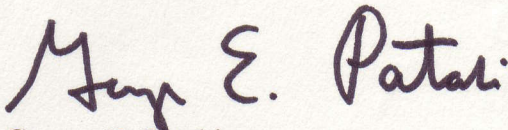
Bill Richardson  
Governor of New Mexico



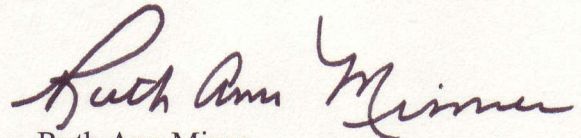
Richard J. Codey  
Governor of New Jersey



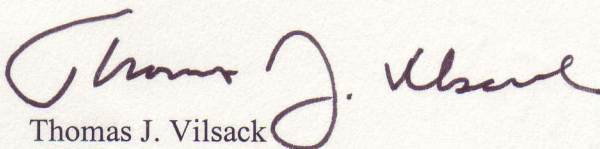
Kenny Guinn  
Governor of Nevada



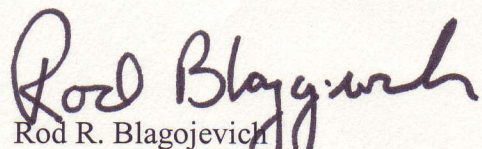
George E. Pataki  
Governor of New York



Ruth Ann Minner  
Governor of Delaware



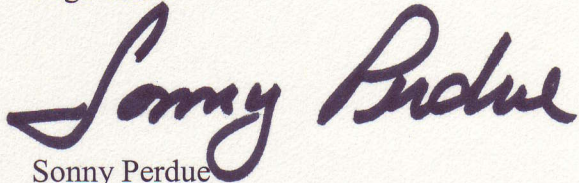
Thomas J. Vilsack  
Governor of Iowa



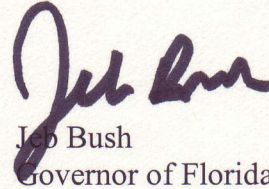
Rod R. Blagojevich  
Governor of Illinois



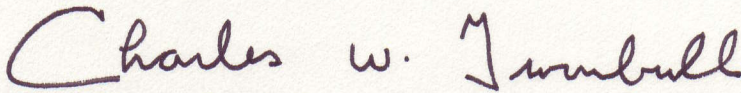
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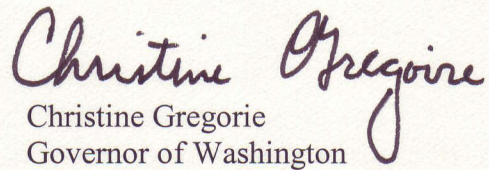
Sonny Perdue  
Governor of Georgia



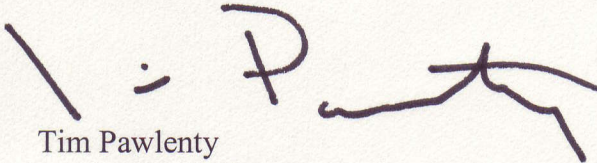
Jeb Bush  
Governor of Florida



Charles Turnbull  
Governor of Virgin Islands



Christine Gregorie  
Governor of Washington



Tim Pawlenty  
Governor of Minnesota

cc: The Honorable Jerry Lewis, Chairman  
The Honorable David R. Obey, Ranking Member